

REMARKS

In the November 22, 2005 Office Action, claims 10-18 stand rejected in view of prior art. No other objections or rejections are made in the Office Action.

Status of Claims and Amendments

In response to the November 22, 2005 Office Action, Applicants wish to amend claim 10 as indicated above. Thus, claims 1-25 are pending, with claims 1-9 and 19-25 being withdrawn from consideration, and claims 1, 10, and 19 being the only independent claims. Reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Interview Summary

On February 9, 2006, the undersigned conducted a personal interview with Examiner Evan H. Langdon, who is in charge of the above-identified patent application. Applicants wish to thank Examiner Langdon for the opportunity to discuss the above-identified patent application.

During the interview, claim 10 and the Nanbu and Furomoto references were discussed.

Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

On pages 2-4 of the Office Action, claims 11-13 and 15-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0053617 to Nanbu ("Nanbu patent") in view of Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002/027878 to Furomoto ("Furomoto patent"). Claim 14 stands rejected as being unpatentable over the Furomoto patent in view of the Nanbu patent and Japanese Patent Application Publication No. 2002-247940 to Kuriyama ("Kuriyama patent").

Although the Office Action does not include discussion of rejections of claims 1 and 16, the Applicants' representative confirmed with the Examiner in charge, during a telephone interview on or about January 30, 2006, that claims 1 and 16 are rejected based on the Nanbu patent in view of the Furomoto patent.

In response, Applicants have amended independent claim 10 as mentioned above.

More specifically, independent claim 10 has been amended to recite that the *fishing information display device display control unit acquire* the first information from *the fishing reel control unit*. Furthermore, claim 10 as now amended also requires that the *fishing reel control unit* be configured to *control a spool counter* and a fishing reel

information communication unit, and generate the first information based on an output from the spool counter. In other words, claim 10 as now amended requires *two separate control units*, that is, the fishing reel control unit which controls the spool counter, and the fishing information display device display control unit which controls the display unit of the fishing information display device. Clearly, this arrangement is *not* disclosed or suggested by the Nanbu patent, the Furomoto patent, the Kuriyama patent or any other prior art of record.

Nanbu Patent

The Nanbu patent has been cited in the Office Action to show the information communication unit 61, the display device 27, and the fishing reel 21. Applicants believe that the Nanbu patent does not disclose or suggest the fishing information display device display control unit that is *separate* from the fishing reel control unit, since the microcomputer 21 of the Nanbu patent *both* generates the first information based on an output from the spool counter detector 33, and controls the display 27 to display various data. See Figure 2, paragraphs [0074], [0076]. This is clearly contrary to the requirement of claim 10 as now amended, since claim 10 requires that the fishing information display device display control unit, which controls the display on the display unit of the fishing information display device, be *separate* from the fishing reel control unit, which controls the spool counter.

Therefore, Applicants believe that the Nanbu patent does not disclose or suggest the arrangement of claim 10 as now amended.

Furomoto Patent

The Furomoto patent has been cited in the Office Action to show the second display unit. Applicants believe that the Furomoto patent does not disclose or suggest the fishing information display device display control unit that is *separate* from the fishing reel control unit. As clearly shown in Figure 4 and discussed in paragraph [0017], the fishing reel of the Furomoto patent has only one reel control circuit 30, which is connected to and controls *both* the spool counter 42 and the display portion 5. Clearly, there is no separate fishing reel control unit and fishing information display device display control unit. This is clearly contrary to the requirement of claim 10 as now amended, since claim 10 requires that the fishing information display device display control unit, which controls the display unit of the fishing information display device, be *separate* from the fishing reel control unit, which controls the spool counter.

Thus, Applicants believe that the Furomoto patent does not disclose or suggest the arrangement of claim 10, whether singularly or in combination with the Nanbu patent.

Kuriyama Patent

The Kuriyama patent has been cited in the Office Action to show the switching of the display between a detail mode and a simple mode. Applicants believe that the Kuriyama patent does not cure the deficiency of the Nanbu patent or the Furomoto patent. In the Kuriyama patent, there is no disclosure or suggestion of the fishing information display device display control unit that is *separate* from the fishing reel control unit. Particularly, as shown in Figure 7 and discussed in paragraph [0029], the control unit 30 of the Kuriyama patent controls *both* the display unit 5 and the spool counter 42. This is clearly contrary to the requirement of claim 10 as now amended, since claim 10 requires that the fishing information display device display control unit, which controls the display on the display unit of the fishing information display device, be *separate* from the fishing reel control unit, which controls the spool counter.

Thus, Applicants believe that the Kuriyama patent does not disclose or suggest the arrangement of claim 10, whether singularly or in any combination with the Nanbu patent and the Furomoto patent.

Dependent Claims

Moreover, Applicants believe that dependent claims 11-18 are also allowable over the prior art of record in that they depend from independent claim 10, and therefore are narrower. Thus, Applicants believe that since the prior art of record does not disclose or suggest the invention as set forth in independent claim 10, the prior art of record also fails to disclose or suggest the inventions as set forth in dependent claims 11-18.

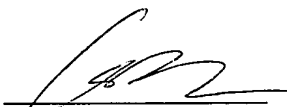
Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn in view of the above comments and amendments.

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In view of the foregoing amendment and comments, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 10-18 are now in condition for allowance. Entrance of the foregoing amendment, reexamination and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/674,067
Supplemental Amendment dated March 22, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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Dated: Mar 22, 2006

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